

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending. Original Claims 1-6 have been amended for clarity as suggested by the Examiner. New Claims 7-24 depend from Claim 1 and merely incorporate additional limitations. Support for new Claims 7-14 is found in original Claim 2. Claim 15 finds support in the specification at page 8, last five lines. Claim 16 finds support on the fifth line from the bottom of page 9 of the specification. The ceramics base solutions of Claims 17-20 are described in original Claim 3. Claim 21 finds support in the specification on page 10, lines 14-15. Claim 22 finds support in the specification on page 10, line 15 and in original Claim 4. Claim 23 finds support on page 10, lines 20-24 and in original Claim 4. Claim 24 finds support at the top of page 11 of the specification. Claims 25-33 find support in original Claim 1 and on page 11, lines 8-18, which describes heat and organic solvent treatments. Accordingly, the Applicants do not believe that any new matter has been added. Favorable consideration of these amendments is now respectfully requested.

Abstract

The Abstract was objected to for the appearance of the word "said". This objection is moot in view of the revision of the Abstract.

Rejection—35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. These rejections are moot in view of the above amendments of these claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

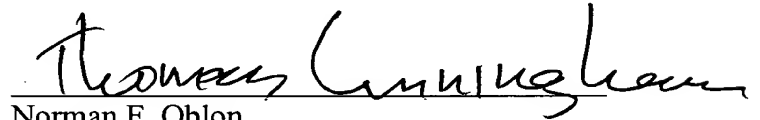
The Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter by Examiner Tentoni. In view of the allowability of independent Claim 1, the Applicants respectfully submit that the new dependent claims should also be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Norman F. Oblon
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 24,618

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)
NFO/TMC/cja

Thomas M. Cunningham
Registration No. 45,394